

LaPorte County Auditor Joie Winski 555 Michigan Avenue, Suite 205 LaPorte, IN 46350-3490

MINUTES REGULAR MEETING OF THE LAPORTE COUNTY COUNCIL NOVEMBER 28, 2016 AT 6:30 P.M.

(Please Turn Off All Cell Phones)

The Regular Meeting of the La Porte County Council was held on November 28, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. (local time) in the Assembly Room of the La Porte County Government Complex located at 809 State Street, La Porte, Indiana, 46350.

CALL TO ORDER

La Porte County Council President Terry Garner called the Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Garner asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. President Garner asked that everyone, except emergency personnel, to please turn off their cell phones at this time.

ROLL CALL

Auditor Winski took the Roll Call. Council Members present were Councilmen Bernacchi, Garner, Novak, Santana and Yagelski and Councilwoman Sosinski. Councilman Kirkham was absent. A quorum was noted.

APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 28, 2016 AGENDA

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Sosinski and seconded by Councilman Novak to approve the November 28, 2016 Agenda. Motion carried 6-0

APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 17, 2016 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

A Motion was made by Councilman Novak and seconded by Councilman Bernacchi to approve the October 17, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion carried 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dennis Metheny, 6757 West 450 North, Michigan City, IN 46360

Mr. Metheny expressed his disappointment and disapproval of forgiving a \$6,000,000 loan and the County taking over the management and maintenance of the Railroad tracks. He stated that there is no employee

in the County that is experienced in this area, and the financial burden of this should not fall upon the taxpayers.

Earl Cunningham, 6311 W Shiva Drive, La Porte, IN 46350

Mr. Cunningham stated that if the Council is going to approve \$50,000 Commissioners' request for legal fees, then an itemized invoice should be provided to the Council. He asked for a copy of an itemized bill from any Council member who may be in possession of one.

Hearing or seeing no additional Public Comment, President Garner closed Public Comment.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Barb Mossman, Director of Human Resources

Ms. Mossman explained that a Federal judge determined that the Department of Labor is restricted from changing the overtime rule by increasing the salary bases. Therefore, she advises any adjustments that were going to be made in exempt/non-exempt status of County employees should be halted until a final court decision is made.

Attorney Biege clarified that some positions have already been voted upon and that the Council would have to reverse its previous action. Ms. Mossman agreed.

A Motion to reverse the Council's previous action due to the court's decision and keep the applicable positions at their previous statuses was made by Councilwoman Sosinski and seconded by Councilman Yagelski. Motion carried 6-0.

Ms. Mossman addressed an issue with the unclassified salaried positions, specifically an item in the Agenda regarding Judge Alevizos' request to amend the descriptions and adjust the salaries of Executive Director of Juvenile Services and Director of Juvenile Court Services. Human Resources will adjust the job descriptions but because the salary increase is requested and these positions are unclassified, they do not come before the Job Evaluation Committee. Ms. Mossman agreed with President Garner's previous suggestion to have all Department Heads refer all future changes in unclassified job positions to the Human Resources department so they can be addressed by the Liaison (currently Councilwoman Sosinski) during Budget Hearings. Ms. Mossman questioned whether or not the Council needed to make any changes or adjustments at this time.

President Garner stated that the Job Evaluation Committee and Human Resources would be better equipped to address it.

Ms. Mossman questioned if the 2016 salary increases of unclassified positions that could not be addressed during budget hearings could be considered in the Waggoner, Irwin & Scheele study.

Councilwoman Sosinski added that Judge Alevizos acted correctly because he followed the protocol that currently existed and that the change would be undertaken as of January 1, 2017.

Councilman Novak asked for the amount of the increases. Ms. Mossman replied that the requested increase in the base salary for the Director is \$5,000 and the increase in the base salary for the Executive Director is \$4,000.

Councilman Yagelski stated that this item should have been addressed at Budget Hearings and if it is approved, it should have an effective date of January 1, 2017.

A Motion to approve the increases as of January 1, 2017 was made by Councilman Yagelski and seconded by Councilman Novak. Motion carried 6-0.

John Boyd, La Porte County Sheriff

Sheriff Boyd came before the Council to refute all allegations that have appeared in the media regarding the Sheriff's Department support of the pipeline in North Dakota. He explained that his Office has been inundated with emails, letters, and phone calls that have caused disruptions in the operations of the Department. Sheriff Boyd unequivocally stated that the Sheriff's department has not sent any resources or manpower to North Dakota and has no future plans to do so.

Andrew McGuire, Administrator of La Porte County EMS

Mr. McGuire addressed the Council regarding an issue with EMS report writing software. He explained that EMS is required to stay in state and federal compliance with NEMSIS (National Emergency Management Services Information System) but due to the age of the software, there are no additional updates. Therefore, alternative options for new software packages are being researched so EMS can meet the June 2017 date for NEMSIS 3 compliance. He added they are trying to find the package with the best value and to contact him with any questions.

Hearing or seeing no additional Department Heads, President Garner closed Department Head Reports.

LIAISON REPORTS

Councilman Bernacchi reported that 95% of the PTABOA appeals have been settled smoothly due to the system in place and actions of the Assessor. He added that he hopes to be reappointed to the PTABOA as he takes great pride and pleasure in serving on it.

Councilman Novak stated that several of his liaisons are on the Agenda requesting permission to spend including Probation and the Prosecutor. The Prosecutor also has a vacancy to fill in the Crimes Against Children Department. He also attended the workshop regarding insurance.

Councilman Santana spoke with all of his liaisons but has nothing to report at this time.

Councilwoman Sosinski said she has had conversations with Ms. Mossman regarding upcoming Agenda items. She also said a meeting is scheduled for December 8th to address some questions and clarify findings regarding the WIS study so it can be finalized. On November 30th she will attend a Redevelopment Committee Meeting.

Councilman Yagelski announced that since the Michigan City Common Council approved the NICTD double track, NICTD President Mike Gordon would like to meet with Members of the Council to discuss potential issues with this project.

President Garner clarified that calling the December 8th meeting was a joint decision between Councilman Novak, Councilwoman Sosinski, Ms. Mossman and himself. In addition, President Garner announced that due to the response by the Sheriff's Office to an incident in Starke County and the body found in Kingsbury,

Sheriff Boyd will be coming before the Council in the future for additional overtime. He also attended the Insurance review workshop.

NEW BUSINESS

A. 2017 Insurance Premiums

Barb Mossman explained that there will be a 9.4% increase in insurance premiums for 2017. She recommended keeping the current 85% County cost/15% Employee cost split.

Councilman Yagelski asked if this item could wait until the December 8th meeting. Councilman Santana added that he felt the insurance premiums and salary increases coincided. Ms. Mossman replied that vendors have already been established for Open Enrollment and it would be difficult to change the dates beginning December 5th. In addition, pushing back the date would most likely affect year-end Payroll and ACA reporting. She added the insurance premium increase for 2017 is approximately \$871,000.

President Garner added that salary increases come out of the General Fund but the insurance premiums come out of the approved fund such as Riverboat. He also discussed the \$2,000,000 cushion that will be needed for the electrical issues at the Michigan City Courthouse.

After discussion of last year's general fund/levy balances, it was determined that there is approximately \$1,000,000 less to spend this year.

President Garner stated that the consensus of the Council is to table the insurance premium issue for now, but Auditor Winski said there had to be a yes or no response. Councilwoman Sosinski added that the best time to address the insurance premiums is after the salaries are adjusted per the WIS study. However, since employees have already signed up for insurance, it would be prudent to move forward with the insurance. Deputy Auditor Smith expressed that a determination must be made for the employees so they can make decisions and budget regarding the offered insurance. Auditor Winski added that many employees have not signed up for insurance because the cost is unknown.

A Motion was made by Councilman Novak and seconded by Councilman Bernacchi to keep the current 85% County cost/15% Employee cost split for 2017 to be paid out of RIVERBOAT (1191).

President Garner called for a roll call. Motion passed 4-2, with President Garner and Councilman Yagelski voting Nay.

B. La Porte County Drug Free Partnership Grant Approvals

Joseph Bunch, President of the La Porte County Drug Free Partnership, informed the Council that the Partnership board has already approved the grant allocations and he provided the paperwork to the Council members.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Sosinski and seconded by Councilman Bernacchi to approve as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

C. Hickman Williams & Company Amended Real and Personal Property Tax Abatement & Resolutions
Mary Jane Thomas stated that Joe Constable from Hickman Williams & Company was in attendance due
to a requested update in their March 2015 abatement. Ms. Thomas said that Hickman Williams & Company
had met the investment to which they had committed. However, they encountered unforeseen expenses

of 8 silos, foundations, internal plant roadway, belt conveyor, 3 material feed hoppers, 2 bucket elevators, screen deck, crusher, 6 screw conveyors, 5 weight belt feeders and controllers, and truck scale. Therefore, they are asking that their 2015 real and personal property abatements be amended to reflect these expenses. The real property is in the amount of \$919,175.21 and person property is in the mount of \$1,946,367.00 and the 20 proposed jobs will remain the same as in the original application. The company is located at 39 North, at the previously vacant solid waste facility. Additional projects may also increase the opportunity for jobs. Mr. Constable explained that Hickman Williams & Company supplies raw materials to foundries and steel mills, and will process carbon-based products at the facility.

A Motion to approve was made by Councilman Novak and seconded by Councilman Bernacchi. Motion carried 6-0.

D. Consideration of Various Documents Necessary to Transfer all Pertinent Easements at Kingsbury Industrial Park to County Redevelopment Commission from Halfwassen Group including Corrective Deed, Quit Claim Deed, Assignment of Easement Agreements, KIP Agreement and the Declaration of Restriction and Covenants - Attorney Mike Hardy, Barnes & Thornburg

Attorney Shaw Friedman and Commissioner Vidya Kora explained the proposal to restructure the terms of the loan agreement as opposed to forgiveness of the loan. Previously, prime rail serve owners were in litigation, which has now been settled. With this agreement and improvements to the KIP, the County will have liens on access and easement instead of just on the land, which will provide the ability to negotiate with more businesses. In addition, this will increase the opportunity for economic revitalization and new jobs. The goal is the have TIF revenue from the economic revitalization repay the \$6,000,000 loan. Until now, that hasn't happened due to conflict between prime rail serve owners. Attorney Friedman emphasized that the immediate purpose is to gain authority from the Council to submit a counteroffer and not submit a done-deal scenario. He assured the Council that if any signification changes occurred, the Council would be approached again.

Councilman Bernacchi added that he feels the Agreement is very transparent and does not foresee any issues with it. Councilwoman Sosinski agreed.

Councilman Yagelski asked about the food transport possibility. Attorney Friedman replied that it was not a viable option at this time but other businesses such as pet food product, chemical, and plastic companies have shown interest. In addition, CSX sent an encouraging letter saying the future of KIP is bright.

Councilman Bernacchi clarified that some of the TIF revenues go to Economic Development and that the ordinance would dictate to whom the money is given.

A Motion was made by Councilman Yagelski and seconded by Councilwoman Sosinski to approve authority for a counteroffer with the stipulation that the Council will be informed of any significant change in the agreement.

Attorney Biege stated that because certain exhibits do not exist and have not been provided to the Council, the only item to be approved should be the counteroffer but not the execution of the Resolution.

Councilman Santana asked that Mr. Hardy from Barnes & Thornburg go on the record to say that this wasn't a forgiveness of the loan but a restructuring of the loan. Mr. Hardy agreed and said once the loan

is paid back, the County will continue to manage and maintain the rails and will benefit from the use of the rails.

Attorney Biege asked for an explanation of the specifics of the deal. Mr. Hardy replied that interconnecting rails within the facility will be controlled by reciprocal easements and the rights will be transferred to the County. Motion carried 6-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Salary Increases and WIS Study

This item was postponed until the next regular meeting in January.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

None.

APPROPRIATIONS, TRANSFERS, REQUESTS

La Porte County Probation

Requesting Permission to Spend from Probation User Fees (2102)

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for Superior Court No. 1 - Computer Equipment	\$5,081.93
for Superior Court No. 2 - Computer System/Equipment	\$7,617.00
for Superior Court No. 3 - Computer Equipment	\$1,824.00
for Superior Court No. 4 - Ten Courtroom Chairs	\$2,925.00
for Circuit Court Scanners	\$3,599.96
for Circuit Court Office Furniture	\$1,532.25

Chief Probation Officer Steve Eyrick explained the requests for the various courts. He stated that Judge Friedman has had to bring personal chairs from her residence so replacements are necessary. He also indicated that changes to the Odyssey System have necessitated updates in software and hardware. Mr. Eyrick added that he has approximately \$500,000.00 in this Fund.

A Motion to approve all items was made by Councilman Novak and seconded by Councilwoman Sosinski. Motion carried 6-0.

Mr. Eyrick added that per a letter from December 10th, he is also requesting additional items including a computer desk, two monitors, 6 HP Chromebooks and a laser jet printer in the amount of \$4,660.96 to be spent out of the same fund.

A Motion to approve was made by Councilman Novak and seconded by Councilman Santana for permission to spend \$4,660.96 out of Probation User Fees (2102). Motion carried 6-0.

Mr. Eyrick also requested to transfer \$20,000.00 from Probation User Fees Fund to Problem Solving Court Fund.

A Motion to approve was made by Councilman Novak and seconded Councilman Bernacchi. Motion carried 6-0.

La Porte County Commissioners

Requesting an Additional Appropriation from Riverboat (1191) or Win Tax (4220) for Conference Room Chairs

Not to Exceed \$1,900.00

Auditor Winski explained that the chairs are hand-me-downs for other departments and pose a possible danger to those that sit it them because they are unstable.

A Motion to approve out of Riverboat (1191) was made by Councilman Novak and seconded by Councilman Santana. Motion carried 6-0.

La Porte County Commissioners

Requesting Permission to Transfer from 1000-11019-000-0143 to 1000-300002-000-0143

for Postage

\$45,000.00

Auditor Winski explained that because postage programs were changed this year, cost of postage turned out to be more expensive than anticipated. Currently, the deficit is \$24,337.80.

Councilman Yagelski stated that the deficit occurred because the program does not work. Auditor Winski added that any change to the program would have to come through the Commissioners but that the system should return to its previous status or find a new program. Commissioner Kora added that this issue will be addressed next year.

A Motion to approve the \$45,000.00 transfer was made by Councilman Yagelski and seconded by Councilwoman Sosinski. Motion carried 6-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Yagelski and seconded by Councilman Santana to ask the Commissioner's counsel, Attorney Friedman, to either determine a way to get out of the postage contract or negotiate a way to resolve the issues. Motion carried 6-0

La Porte County Commissioners

Requesting Permission to Transfer from 1000-11007-000-0143 and 1000-11019-000-0143 to 1000-30020-000-0143 for Legal Fees

\$50,000.00

Auditor Winski clarified that this transfer is for all legal fees associated with the County and not just those of Attorney Friedman. She added that a similar transfer was made last year in the amount of \$60,000.00. In addition, the transfer is coming out of the Employee Group Health, which is an insurance fund. At this time, there is approximately \$266,000.00 in that Fund.

A Motion to approve was made by Councilwoman Sosinski and seconded by Councilman.

Councilman Santana asked for a breakdown of who receives payment. Auditor Winski replied that recipients include Attorney Biege, Newby Lewis, and Attorney Schoof. Attorney Friedman added that a complete breakdown is available and can be provided to the Council for 2015 through August of 2016. Councilman Santana communicated that he appreciates the transparency.

Councilman Yagelski asked for the amount of money that was used out of this Fund in 2016. Chief Deputy Auditor Smith replied that \$4,733,646.00 out of \$5,000,000 has been expended. In addition, this Fund has been paid through October. Motion carried 6-0.

La Porte County Recorder
Requesting Permission to Spend
from Recorder's Perpetuation Fund
for Scanning and Imaging Project

\$27,262.37

It was established that Recorder Dean had previously come before the Council and that the Fund had a sufficient amount of money in it for this request.

A Motion to approve was made by Councilman Novak and seconded by Councilwoman Sosinski. Motion carried 6-0.

Councilman Novak asked how the scanning project progressed. Recorder Dean said the project was successful and this was the final payment.

Councilman Yagelski asked to address an item because Attorney Friedman was unable to stay until the end of the meeting. Due to a new law extinguishing the ability of County employees to receive any type of remuneration, Councilman Yagelski asked for support from the Commissioners to negotiate an agreement with the AIC for a compromise to this situation. Attorney Friedman stated that he advised departments in the County of this rule, but relief can be realized if the County adopts a rule providing a low dollar value exception. If the Council gives direction to research this, the Commissioners, along with Attorney Biege's office, will move forward.

A Motion to approve moving forward was made by Councilman Novak and seconded by Councilwoman Sosinski. Motion carried 6-0.

La Porte County Planning/IT Departments Requesting an Additional Appropriation from Riverboat (1191) or Win Tax (4220) for Building Permit Online Software

\$38,000.00

Darlene Hale, IT Director, explained that this software will enable a homeowner with the opportunity to obtain a building permit during times when offices are closed. She added that this software will enhance the use of the Beacon Schneider system and other departments will also be contributing to the cost. Building & Planning is contributing \$15,000, Health Department, \$13,000, Highway, \$8,000, and Solid Waste, \$3,000. This will benefit many departments and will connect throughout the departments. In addition, this software will notify the various departments of occurrences within the system. In addition, information will be able to be accessed on portable technology such as iPads. The yearly cost is approximately \$7,000, which will come out of Contractor Registration Fees.

A Motion to approve out of Riverboat (1191) was made by Councilman Novak and seconded by Councilman Yagelski. Motion carried 6-0.

La Porte County Sheriff

Requesting Permission to Spend from Misdemeanant Fund (1175)

for Jail Tracker Maintenance

\$13,651.65

Sheriff Boyd explained that this is a yearly fee that is vitally important and has been approved by IT Director, Darlene Hale.

A Motion to approve was made by Councilman Bernacchi and seconded by Councilman Novak. Motion carried 5-0. Councilman Santana temporarily stepped away from his chair and was not available for the vote.

La Porte County Sheriff

Requesting an Additional Appropriation from Riverboat (1191) or Win Tax (4220) for Page 100

for Pension \$462,950.00

Sheriff Boyd communicated that this is an end-of-year payment request. This year there was an increase in investment of 2.55 percent which is above average, and there are 55 people drawing from the plan.

Councilman Novak asked for a year-end report projection to insure the expenditure is on track. Sheriff Boyd replied affirmatively and added there are quarterly pension board meetings that are open o the public.

A Motion to approve out of Riverboat (1191) was made by Councilman Novak and seconded by Councilman Bernacchi. Motion carried 6-0.

Attorney Biege requested an actuarial packet to review on behalf of the Council.

La Porte County Sheriff

Requesting an Additional Appropriation from Riverboat (1191) or Win Tax (4220) for Courthouse Security Overtime

\$2,500.00

A Motion to approve was made by Councilman Novak and seconded by Councilwoman Sosinski to approve from Win Tax. Motion carried 6-0.

La Porte County Circuit Court

Requesting Permission to Amend Job Descriptions
For Director of Juvenile Court and Executive Director of Juvenile Services

This item was previously addressed.

La Porte County Prosecutor

Requesting Permission to Transfer

from Unappropriated Pre-Trial Diversion 2500-20200-000-0327 to

Infraction Deferral 2501-20200-000-0343

for Claims

\$25,000.00

Prosecutor Espar explained that the transfer is to meet his office's obligation through the balance of the year.

Councilman Yagelski inquired if this money was for donations. Prosecutor Espar replied obligations have been pledged to Dunebrook, Stepping Stone, the Trail Creek Chief of Police, and those for the day-to-day operations of the office.

Councilman Yagelski asked if the any previous obligations have been given to these entities. Prosecutor Espar said \$15,000.00 is still due to Dunebrook and \$5,000 to Stepping Stone. Councilman Yagelski stated that \$5,000.00 was given June 9th and \$15,000.00 was given on September 14th. He inquired whether an additional \$15,000.00 was scheduled to be given to Dunebrook. Prosecutor Espar explained that \$10,000.00 was still due to the Victim Advocate and \$10,000.00 on the pledge to Dunebrook.

Attorney Biege added that these are discretionary funds and that the Prosecutor is authorized to use them and the donations being given are authorized by the Funds.

Councilman Yagelski expressed that the amounts being given were not adding up. He asked for clarification that the money already given was not all that was supposed to be donated. Attorney Biege added that there would not be so much confusion if the Prosecutor's Office had followed the Council's process for requests.

Prosecutor Espar stated that \$15,000.00 is still due to Dunebrook, \$5,000.00 to Stepping Stone, and \$5,000.00 for equipment for Trail Creek Police.

President Garner asked if a Motion was necessary. Attorney Biege replied that a Motion was necessary and to include waiver of the reporting requirements for the Prosecuting Attorney.

A Motion to approve as stated was made by Councilman Novak and seconded by Councilman Santana. Motion carried 6-0.

La Porte County Prosecutor

Requesting Permission to Transfer

from Victim Advocate Fund 8131-11017-000-0550 to 8131-20200-000-0550

for Claims

\$1,765.10

A Motion to approve was made by Councilman Novak and seconded by Councilwoman Sosinski. Motion carried 6-0.

La Porte County Prosecutor

Requesting Permission to Hire

for Internet Crimes Against Children Support Position

\$50,000.00 (per year)

Prosecutor Espar explained that this was to replace an ICAC vacancy that was created in October.

A Motion to approve was made by Councilman Novak and seconded by Councilman Santana.

Councilman Yagelski stated that this position needed to go through the HR department and it wasn't in the budget. Prosecutor Espar replied that this is an unclassified position and that it was approved upon the creation of the Internet Crimes Against Children Unit.

President Garner stated that this was discussed and that in the future, this position would need to go through La Porte County Personnel Committee.

Councilwoman Sosinski added that it is protocol to follow County procedure.

Auditor Winski explained that the vacant position needs to be advertised to the current employees.

Attorney Biege attempted to clarify that there needs to be a discussion on the district prosecutor's discretion on hiring and firing depending on the position.

President Garner added that funding may not be given if procedures are not followed. Attorney Biege agreed and that a gray area exists and the discretion is not always clear.

Prosecutor Espar replied that he would be willing to discuss any issues so there are not further problems and the units can be funded as necessary.

Attorney Biege said Councils have defunded positions because there was an argument to which who has the authority.

Auditor Winski added that during the last Auditor's Conference, she learned that employees of the Prosecutor Attorney are considered County employees who receive benefits and wages through the County, so they are County employees.

A discussion ensued between Auditor Winski and Attorney Biege but it was decided to pursue this issue at a later date.

Prosecutor Espar stated that his Office is not a County Office but rather a State office.

President Garner stated that the Council has asked that Prosecutor Espar follow its procedures and if not, funding might not be given.

Councilman Santana added that the formality must be followed and Councilman Novak said that Prosecutor Espar needs to come before the Council for permission.

Councilwoman Sosinski said County Policy is there for a reason and says a position should be open to everyone. Motion carried 6-0.

La Porte County EMS

Requesting an Additional Appropriation from Riverboat (1191) or Win Tax (4220) for Furniture/Mattresses Ambulance Bases

\$9,800.00

Andrew McGuire explained these are for Wanatah and Michigan City Bases. He said these have not been replaced since 2007.

Councilman Yagelski said there should be a transfer from an alternative fund. A Motion to approve \$2,500.00 out of Emergency Rental and \$7,500.00 out of Gas and Oil was made by Councilman Yagelski and seconded by Councilman Santana. Motion carried 6-0. Andrew McGuire will meet with Deputy Auditor Smith to review their Funds.

La Porte County Clerk of Circuit Court

Requesting an Additional Appropriation from Riverboat (1191) or Win Tax (4220) for Election Extended Workers and Hours

\$20,000.00

Ms. Lynne Spevak said that the additional appropriation wasn't necessary because after looking through her Fund ledgers, she had enough money.

La Porte County Planning/Grant Administrator

Requesting an Additional Appropriation from Riverboat (1191) or Win Tax (4220) for Local Matching Grant

\$81,562.00

A Motion to approve out of Riverboat (1191) was made by Councilman Yagelski and seconded by Councilman Novak. Motion carried 6-0.

La Porte County Auditor

Requesting an Additional Appropriation from Riverboat (1191) or Win Tax (4220) for Part-Time Tax Help (3rd tax sale this year)

\$7,000.00

Auditor Winski said that extra help was necessary due to the tax sales. A Motion to approve out of Win Tax (4220) was made by Councilman Novak and seconded by Councilwoman Sosinski. The Motion carried 6-0.

La Porte County Auditor

Requesting Permission to Spend from Homestead Property Dual Database for Office Furniture

Not to Exceed \$4,000.00

Auditor Winski asked to replace chairs and desks. A Motion to approve not to exceed \$4,000.00 was made by Councilman Santana and seconded by Councilman Bernacchi. Motion carried 6-0.

COUNTY COUNCIL/ATTORNEY COMMENTS

President Garner expressed appreciation to Councilman Bernacchi for his 8 years of service and hopes he continues with the PTABOA Board. Councilman Bernacchi replied that he found it a pleasure to serve the community and enjoyed serving on the Council. He would also like to see the numbers on the renovation on the old Community Correction Building. He feels a lot of money was expended.

Councilman Novak asked if there is a need for an additional meeting in December.

Councilwoman Sosinski replied it depends on the December 8th meeting.

Joie Winski, La Porte County Auditor

ADJOURNMENT

ATTEST:

A Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Santana and seconded by President. Motion passed 6-0.

EXAMINED & APPROVED BY THE LA PORTE COUNTY COUNCIL this 20th Day of December, 2016.

Councilman Terry Garner

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Councilman Lois Sosinski

Councilman Mark Yage Mark

Councilman Mark